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November 14, 2016

Weekly Report

Highlight of Departmental Activities

The Weekly Report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the many Departments within Rutherford County Government. Click on the directory lists, headings and text in blue to be linked to more information.

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Register of Deeds

Revenue

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Soil and Water

Solid Waste

Transit

Tourism Development Authority

Veteran Services

Veterans Day

Veterans Day, November 11th, is a public holiday that is



dedicated to honoring anyone who has served in the United States military, and was declared a holiday by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919. Originally known as Armistice Day, the holiday became Veterans Day in 1954.

A very special 'thank you' to our Veterans and families for your commitment, dedication and sacrifice.

County Events Honoring Our Veterans

- Wednesday, November 9th, breakfast at RS Central High School from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday, November 10th, Veterans Program at the Rutherford County Senior Center starting at 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, November 11th, Veteran's Day Concert featuring The Gibson Brothers at the Foundation at ICC at 7:00 p.m. All veterans receive a FREE ticket.
- Saturday November 12th, Salute to Veterans Celebration at RS Middle School from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Flyer on page 19.)

Call 828.287.6064 for further information.

Cooperative Extension

Reporting staff, Jeff Bradley, Tracy Davis, Cynthia Robbins, and Hannah Bundy:

- Interviews for all Master Gardener applicants for Rutherford County's 2017 class
- Master morning Show and Tell Thursday morning
- Continued work on the "521 Almost None" health message to encourage healthy lifestyle choices such

as eating fruits and vegetables, drinking water, and getting physical activity.

- Conducted a program for Rutherford Life Services on healthy snacks.
- Attended Extension & Community Association (ECA) county council meeting.
- Prepared for Career Fair at Spindale Elementary.
- Cooperative Extension received a \$4,000 grant from RHI Legacy to bring the Speedway to Healthy exhibit back to Rutherford County. Over 800 fourth graders and their teachers toured the exhibits. Students came from all ten county elementary schools, Thomas Jefferson, Lake Lure, and Trinity. Students toured the human body exhibit and learned the importance of eating healthy, drinking water, and taking care of their bodies. Extension utilized over fifty volunteers during the week, including the HOSA students from East Rutherford High School (photos right and below).











FRUITS & VEGGIES



Use the "try a bite" rule. Sometimes it can take tasting a fruit or vegetable up to 7 times to realize you like it!



Make a rainbow on your

CUT



Keep TVs out of bedrooms and place them in a central or living room instead.



Turn off the TV during mealtimes.

SCREEN TIME







Go and play tag or frisbee. If you can't go outside, turn on some music and dance!





Take a walk after dinner.

DRINK





Carry a water bottle with you that you can refill.





Add flavor to your water with a lemon, lime, or orange slice.

Learn more at www.521almostnone.com and see how you can incorporate 5-2-1 Almost None healthy habits into your life and make the spaces you live, work, play, or pray healthier.



County Manager and Commissioners

Listed are several events, meetings, and activities in which the County Manager, Commissioners and staff were involved with the following individuals, departments and businesses:

- Projects and Planning
- Building Inspections
- Economic Development Commission
- Board of Commissioners' Monthly Meeting
- Election Day
- Solid Waste Department Head
- Veteran Services Department Head
- Senior Center Department Head
- Tourism Director
- County Attorney
- Pay and Class Study Interviews
- Airport Agenda review
- Airport
- Caams MRO Services
- Promotional Video for Rutherford County
- Rails to Trails Committee
- County-ICC Construction update
- Mission Health
- Detention Center
- Assessing Fire Lake Lure

Thank you to Commissioner Michael Benfield's lovely daughter, Lauren, for leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the Board of Commissioners' meeting on Monday evening.



Pictured: Lauren and her mother, Lori Benfield



Other activities and events included Ruth, Bostic, Forest City and Lake Lure Town Council meetings. Meetings with citizens, numerous calls, interoffice meetings, conference calls, public relations, advising, and preparation for various responsibilities.

A very special Happy Birthday to Commissioner Greg Lovelace, November 10th (pictured left). May you have a wonderful week full of joy, love and time with the people who matter most to you. Thank you for your service to our County and always looking to help others.

РНОТО

Last Friday, Congressman Patrick McHenry and Chairman Bryan King had the opportunity to discuss and answer questions from Rutherford Early College High School students regarding their service as an elected official.



Economic Development

This week, the Economic Development Department responded to an industrial RFI and presented to the Leadership Rutherford Class of 2017. Staff continues to be busy conducting research regarding public-private partnerships, attending numerous meetings with county departments and industry allies, following up with multiple industrial recruitment and expansion prospects, communicating with the Department of Commerce and industry representatives regarding various grant reports and requests, and working to increase our social media presence. This week's schedule also included updating content on the Rutherford County Economic Development and Gateway West Commerce Park websites and preparing for the upcoming EDC Board Meeting.

Finance Department

The Finance Office processed accounts payable. Director Paula Roach attended several interdepartmental meetings.

Fire Marshal/Emergency Management

The Party Rock Fire has grown to an estimated 344 acres, and is currently still at 30% containment. The containment is on the south side of the fire, protecting homes along the Boys Camp and Carsons Way roads.

As of 11.8.16, some may have noticed aircraft flying in the air. Seven aviation resources are devoted to this fire. We currently have three heavy airtankers working on the fire. These aircraft are dropping fire retardant when they fly over. Each airtanker drop provides 1,500 gallons of fire retardant for a combined drop of 4,500 gallons.





In addition to the heavy air-tankers, we have one helicopter which continues making water drops, one scout plane (our eyes in the sky), one lead plane to lead the heavy air-tankers to the drop sites, and one air attack plane which coordinates all of the aviation activity from above.

The NC Forest Service continues to provide 24 hour shifts to monitor and work on this fire.

Praying for success and safety for our Fire Marshal, staff, and fire departments from surrounding counties in their efforts to extinguish the Party Rock Fire.



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PROCLAMATION OF A COUNTY STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, due to a wildfire located in the northwest part of Rutherford County in the Lake Lure area; and

WHEREAS, the wildfire is not presently under control and appears likely to spread to inhabited portions of Rutherford County.

NOW THEREFORE, this proclamation is hereby made and entered as follows:

Section 1 Pursuant to the Rutherford County State of Emergency Ordinance and appropriate sections of

North Carolina's General Statutes, I have determined that a State of Emergency as defined in the

County's State of Emergency Ordinance does exist in the County of Rutherford

because of the wildfire referenced hereinabove beginning the 7th day of November, 2016.

Section 2 I, thereby, proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the County of

Rutherford.

Section 3 I hereby order all County law enforcement officers and employees and all other

Emergency management personnel subject to my control to cooperate in enforcement and implementation of the provision of the County emergency

ordinance set forth below.

Section 4 County personnel are authorized to establish emergency shelters and to expend

necessary County funds to provide temporary congregate care for Rutherford

County citizens.

Section 5 County agencies shall work cooperatively to assure the needs of Rutherford County.

Citizens are met to the extent possible with those resources under my control.

Section 6 EXECUTION OF EMERGENCY PLAN. All civilians and emergency management

personnel are ordered to comply with Rutherford County's All Hazards, Emergency

Operations Plan.

Section 7 This proclamation shall become effective immediately. Proclaimed this the 7th day

of November, 2016, at 7:40 pm.

County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, Chairman

Alan Toney, Vice Chairman Michael Benfield Eddie Holland Greg Lovelace Steven W. Garrison, County Manager Hazel S. Haynes, Clerk to the Board Richard Williams, County Attorney

an, Rutherford County Board of Commissioners

Human Resources

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirement. This is a very busy time for the HR Department. Staff is currently working on:

- open enrollment for SHP
- open enrollment for Colonial
- payroll
- longevity
- tenure reception
- ACA reporting
- personnel policy updates
- the pay and class study

Meetings with Becky Veazy of the MAPS Group began November 1, 2016. Thank you for assisting Becky and her staff during this process. The Director also hosted training for new supervisors for performance evaluations, and attended the County Commissioner meeting. The HR Specialist conducted the monthly new hire orientation. Welcome to our new hires Ronyal Reep Jr. (DSS), Wayne Litaker (Elections), and Sherri Simmons (Elections).

We would like to thank all Veterans for their service to this great country. I am sharing a statement I heard and it is so true: "A Veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount up to and including his life." Thank you all for your service.

Information Technology

Traffic Summary - BarracudaSF.rutherfordcountync.gov [172.16.10.29]

From 2016-10-31 00:00:00 To 2016-11-06 23:59:00

Inbound Traffic

Day	Rate Controlled			Blocked: Virus	Quarantined	Allowed: Tagged	Allowed	Total Received
2016-10-31	76	105	780	43	47	10	3137	4198
2016-11-01	3321	128	794	56	70	5	3882	8256
2016-11-02	454	687	719	80	74	8	3786	5808
2016-11-03	3998	92	766	30	63	4	4233	9186
2016-11-04	9297	104	778	42	71	5	2841	13138
2016-11-05	14181	94	565	14	26	0	1118	15998
2016-11-06	6261	73	461	4	12	4	913	7728
Total	37588	1283	4863	269	363	36	19910	64312

Outbound Traffic

Day	Rate Controlled	Blocked: Policy	Blocked: Spam	Blocked: Virus	Quarantined	Sent	Encrypted	Redirected	Authentication Failure	Total Received
2016-10-31	214	0	31	0	0	1476	5	0	1397	3123
2016-11-01	10	0	1	0	0	1333	14	0	1816	3174
2016-11-02	260	0	32	0	0	1382	5	0	1650	3329
2016-11-03	0	0	2	0	0	1099	5	0	1755	2861
2016-11-04	10	0	2	0	0	1123	5	0	572	1712
2016-11-05	12	0	34	0	0	431	0	0	721	1198
2016-11-06	10	0	7	0	0	421	0	0	650	1088
Total	516	0	109	0	0	7265	34	0	8561	16485

Library



2nd Annual 3-D Design and Print Contest! It's here and bigger and better than ever! TWO categories...one for Teens aged 13-18 and one for Adults aged 18 and up. For further information, please contact Kenneth at 828-287-6327 or kenneth.odom@rutherfordcountync.gov.

DEPRESSION AND DEMENTIA

Depression and
Dementia go
hand-in-hand.
Join us as Judy Early
from Smoky Mountain
LME/MCO gives us
information on how to
recognize the
symptoms and the
importance of seeking
treatment.

Rutherford County Library
255 Callahan Koon Rd., Spindale, NC
828-287-6115 (call for information)
November 17, 2016
6:00 p.m.

THIS PRESENTATION REVIEWS THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION, ADDRESSES THE DIFFICULTY IN RECOGNIZING DEPRESSION IN INDIVIDUALS WITH DEMENTIA AND EXPLAINS THE IMPORTANCE OF SEEKING APPROPRIATE TREATMENT.

Revenue Department

Revenue would like to wish everybody a safe and happy Veterans Day. Thank you to all the full-time, reserve and retired veterans. If not for your service, our country would be a different place. Our staff asks that you join us in keeping our emergency personnel in our thoughts and prayers during the tremendous efforts to contain and stop the tragic fire at Chimney Rock Park. We are blessed to have such dedicated emergency personnel protecting our citizens.

Customer Service	Totals
Phone Calls	425
Website Hits	3,089
County Growth Indicators	
Building Permits Reviewed	68
Deeds Recorded	112
Collections Progress	
Deeds Certified/Prior Year Taxes	27
Total Taxes Collected	\$380,897.97

Senior Center

The Senior Center hosted "Thank a Veteran" day on Monday. We provided star cut-outs to list the veteran's name and then displayed the "stars" all week. All veterans were invited to come by Tuesday morning to have some refreshments and then popcorn on Tuesday afternoon as a small token of gratitude for all the veterans have done for our country. On Wednesday, some of our seniors went on a trip to the Holocaust Museum. Lastly, the Senior Center honored our veterans in a very special program on Thursday. All veterans and their family members were encouraged to attend.

Upcoming:

Zumba November 14 & 21 6:00 p.m.

The Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period is October 15 through December 7, and SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, can help Medicare beneficiaries compare plans. The Senior Center has SHIIP counselors that are available to help. Call for an appointment to talk with our trained SHIIP counselors. The main number is 287-6409

Soil & Water

The Admin/Education Specialist:

- Participated in an Annual Meeting Travel Webinar
- Attended the Rutherford County Commissioners Meeting
- Worked on Farm City Poster judging and planning
- Work on District Contest Announcement and planning

The Ag. Cost Share Technician worked on:

- Request for Payment
- Conservation Planning
- NC Dam Safety EAP updates
- BMP engineering updates

Sheriff's Department

Sheriff's October 2016 Report				
Calls for Service	4,629			
Warrants Served/Total Arrest	176/140			
Domestic Calls	174			
Involuntary Commitments/Hours	45/34.15 Man Hrs.			
Civil Papers Served	282			
Ex parte Served	29			
Evictions	15			
Animals Pickup/Surrender	97			
Animals Returned to Owners or Rescued	105			
Animal Control Calls for Service	244			
New Cases Assigned to Detectives/Road Patrol	217/14			
Pill Drop Collections	5,108 Doses Units/606 ML			
Average Daily Inmate Confinement	220			
Gun Purchase Permits Issued	50			
Carry Concealed Permits Issued	35			
Project Lifesaver Clients/Contact Hours	3/4.0 Man Hrs.			
Registered Sex Offenders/Contact Hours	198/26.0 Man Hrs.			
Litter Control Calls/Cases Assigned/Closed	14/11/6			

- 1. Officer George Conner assigned to the Detention Center, retired from the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office effective 10-01-2016, and his retirement is hereby made a matter of record.
- 2. Mr. Jeff Smith was employed by the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff and assigned to the Civil Division. He was assigned radio call *R-445*, effective 09-26-2016.

<u>"Congratulations"</u> to Captain Chris Adkins on his upcoming retirement effective January 1, 2017. A retirement reception is being planned for the Captain on December 16, 2016.

Social Services

In addition to attending regular statewide and agency meetings and webinars, and attending to the work of the agency DSS has had several activities going on the past two weeks. State officials were also in the office on Monday and Tuesday for a foster care case review.

Income Maintenance staff celebrated Halloween with some great costumes and food. Each unit designed theme costumes with judging by some of the administrative staff. There were some very creative ideas and it was a difficult decision.

The winners were First Place - Adult Medicaid as Monopoly . Second Place - Food and Nutrition Services as Emoji's. We also saw Dominos, Breast Cancer Awareness Chicks and Lavern and Shirley although some were too young to know who this was.











Social Services continued from page 12

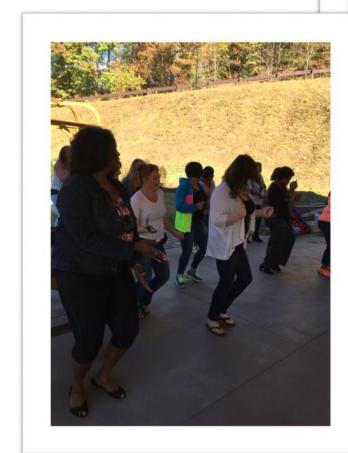
They also held a door decorating contest. The winner of that were First Place - Mary Chappell; Second Place - Pam Henson; and Third Place - Katelyn Rumfelt.







On Friday the Family Services Staff, including adult and children's services held a retreat at Rumbling Bald Resort in Lake Lure. The weather was perfect, the food was great, and some even put their dancing shoes on. The work that this staff does can be very stressful, both emotionally and physically, and this was a great time for staff to reenergize themselves.









Adult Services sponsored a **Chili Cook Off** and sale on Wednesday. There were thirteen entries from across the agency.

First Place went to Kathy McCabe (Children's Services) for her *Never the Same Chili*.

Second Place went to Rhonda Greene (Children's Services) for her *Get it While It's Hot Chili*.

Third Place went to Elaine Connor (Adult Medicaid) for her *Kickin' Chicken Chili*.

Judges were Amanda Freeman (Rutherford Life Services), Caleb Johnson (EMS), and Teresa Hall (Colonial Manor).





An amount of \$405 was raised to help assist guardianship clients and other adults with Christmas. The pictures show the winners, along with the Adult Services staff.





Solid Waste

Customers served 450 Loads hauled from convenience centers 64 MSW loads shipped to Lenoir 38 Recycling loads shipped to Conover 2 Tire customers 19

The director's week consisted of a meeting with the County Manager, installation of a recycling compactor at the Shiloh convenience center and continued work on the equipment/vehicle and capital facilities plan.

The office staff has been busy with customers, reports and preparing for the holidays ahead. The transfer station staff has been busy processing all the recycling and MSW tonnages that are coming in.

The C&D staff continues to haul dirt while processing the C&D tonnages that are coming in. We have been using different methods to try and keep the dust down due to the extreme dry conditions.

The shop staff has been busy working on equipment while performing preventative maintenance.

The airport staff continues to bush hog and perform other tasks at the airport. Thanks to all the solid waste employees for their hard work.

Please continue to recycle!







Tourism Development Authority

Visit our website for a full list of events and times at: <u>TIMEOFYOURLIFENC.COM</u> or call our Welcome Center at 828.287.6113. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please contact Taylor Hardin, Administrative Assistant for the TDA at 828-287-6013 or by email at taylor.hardin@rutherfordcountync.gov

If you need to pick up travel guides for your business or you would like to be added to the newsletter distribution list, please contact Project Manager, Karen Tegen at 828-287-6130 or by email at karen.tegen@rutherfordcountync.gov.

Transportation Services

Emergency Medical Services:

EMS continues to monitor the fire in Lake Lure and have made plans if an EMS strike team is needed on site. McDowell County EMS has graciously provided some EMS support in Lake Lure so that our service can stay focused on the needs of our residents. Staff will attend the meeting on November 10th at the Foundation in regards to the World Equestrian Games and the impact it will have on public safety resources. The monthly management staff meeting was also held and general updates have been made to Station 3 in Bostic.

ТҮРЕ	CURRENT WEEK		
Emergency Calls	143		
Non-Emergency Calls	22		

Transit Services:

Transit staff conducted several interviews with prospective drivers for part-time driving positions. Staff held monthly staff meeting to discuss any issues that anyone was experiencing in their areas. Director and Operations Manager discussed the possibility that Transit could be called upon to assist with evacuations in the Lake Lure area due to the ongoing wildfire that could potentially threaten residential areas. Fortunately that has not become a necessity but we will remain ready to assist if needed. Staff continues to monitor the fueling of our vehicles to reduce demand on the counties inventory on hand. Staff is very excited on the announcement that the World Equestrian Games will be held in Tryon and anticipate the opportunities that will emerge to showcase some of our transportation services on a global stage in a rural community. Staff will attend the informational meeting on November 10 at the Foundation. Staff met with interviewer on the Pay/Classification study. Director presenting information to the County Commissioners on Monday evening, as part of a public hearing for the NCDOT grant submissions for FY 17-18 for a total of \$570,930.

ТҮРЕ	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	10,048	9,714
# of Local Trips	1,195	1,163
# of Out of County Trips	70	59
# Unduplicated Passengers	241	239
Total Revenue	\$19,506	\$18,319

Veteran Services

Mail In	73
Mail Out	20
Fax	160
Phone Calls In/Out	54
Veteran Contacts	109

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Thursday, November 17th, and every third Thursday in the month from 9:00 until 10:30 a.m., a coffee social is planned for veterans.....serving up coffee, treats, conversation and a good time! Allison Gibbons from Red Cross and Dwayne Hunt from Insurance

Service Associates will be our guests in November.

The event will be held at the Rutherford County Veteran Service Office, located at 303 Fairground Road, Spindale, NC, hosted by the staff and co-hosted by American Legion Women's Auxiliary. If you have a topic of interest and would like to participate, contact Beverly at 828-287-6185

Donuts provided by Davis Donuts and Food Lion of Rutherfordton and coffee by Burger King and American Legion Post 74.

JOIN US IN A

SALUTE TO VETERANS

CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

RS MIDDLE SCHOOL

RUTHERFORDTON, NC

9:00 AM TILL NOON











Experience the Presentation of Colors (Flag Ceremony) and The Missing Man Table Ceremony (Honoring Our POW/MIA) Explore Military Vehicles And Displays

Support Toys For Tots. Bring a Toy.



Sponsored by the Marine Corps League Det.# 1221 All proceeds remain in Rutherford County.



A Town of Rutherfordton Event



ROC Thermal Belt Rail Trail Clean-up

Saturday, November 19, 2016 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Friends and families, please join ROC in keeping our community beautiful!

We will need many volunteers to cover the entire trail from Gilkey to Spindale. Volunteers will meet at the left side parking lot of the McDonald's in Spindale at 10 a.m., divided into groups, and assigned a one-mile section of trail. We are hoping for enough volunteers to accomplish clean up on the entire eight miles of trail and wrap up around 1 p.m.

ROC will supply trash bags, gloves and a few pairs of grabbers. Volunteers will leave their trash bags at designated locations, and bags will be picked up by a ROC representative.

This is a great opportunity for the people in the community to come together and help keep our trail looking great so it can continue to be enjoyed by all.

For more information, email Hallie Zeedik at trails@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call (828) 625-9983 ext. 505.



County Manager

Steve Garrison

County Commissioners

Alan Toney, Vice Chairman

Michael Benfield, Eddie Holland, Greg Lovelace

County Office

Hazel Haynes, *Clerk to Board*Richard Williams, *County Attorney*



Kimberly Aldridge, Weekly Report Editor 828.287.6060

Bryan A. King, Chairman